Council on Postsecondary Education July 28, 2003

Program Productivity Reports: KCTCS and Lexington Community College

The Council staff has completed the biennial productivity reviews of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System and Lexington Community College academic degree programs. The agenda item requests Council approval of the results of these reviews.

Action: The staff recommends that the Council approve the productivity reports of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System and Lexington Community College.

Biennial productivity reviews are central to the Council's streamlined academic program policies approved in 1999. Reviews alternate between the eight universities, which begin in odd-numbered years, and the Kentucky Community and Technical College System and Lexington Community College, which begin in even-numbered years.

This current review began in fall 2002. The Council staff identified 24 of the 105 associate programs as low-degree productivity programs (defined as granting less than an average of 12 degrees per year over five years). A list of these programs is <u>attached</u>. The technical colleges were excluded from the review because none had degree programs in operation for more than four years.

Fourteen LCC programs were reviewed. Five were identified as low productivity programs. LCC is significantly changing one program and retaining the other four while developing programs to improve student recruitment and retention. The unchanged programs address state workforce needs and will be subject to review in 2004.

Ninety-one KCTCS programs were reviewed. Nineteen were identified as low productivity programs. The KCTCS will close three programs, alter 13, and retain three programs that provide other valuable services to the colleges. The three retained programs will be subject to review in 2004. The altered and retained programs address state workforce needs, and the KCTCS is developing programs to improve student enrollment.

The academic program productivity review process is described in the November 8, 1999; July 17, 2000; February 5, 2001; and May 19, 2003, agenda items.